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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant:	John T. Moore, et al.	§	Art Unit:	2811
Serial No.:	09/496,794 ✓	§		
Filed:	February 2, 2000	§	Examiner:	Douglas W. Owens
Title:	Trench Isolation for Semiconductor Devices	§	Docket No.:	MCT.0005D1US 97-0608

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

REPLY TO PAPER NO. 12

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed March 28, 2002, reconsideration is requested in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 26-30 were rejected over the patent to Wu. Wu appears to have a filing date of July 27, 1998. The present patent application, which it is an RCE of a divisional, goes back to a parent application having a filing date of December 18, 1997. Thus, it is clear that Wu is not a reference against the present application under 102(e).

Likewise, it is not at all clear that Doan is a reference against the present application. Doan was applied against claims 31, 33, and 34. Doan is based on an application which is a continuation-in-part of an application that would have an earlier filing date than the present application. However, there is no indication in the rejection of whether or not there is support for the elements relied on in a sufficiently early parent application.

Date of Deposit: April 23, 2002

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231.

Cynthia L. Hayden

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